



Advanced Introduction to Private Law

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Jan M. Smits, Professor of Private Law, Faculty of Law, Maastricht University, the Netherlands

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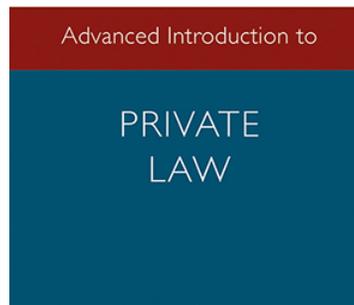
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'Jan Smits succeeds in giving a jargon-free and masterly concise overview of the essential questions and debates in private law. Law students would be well advised to read it twice: once at the very beginning and again at the very end of their private law studies. Non-lawyers will find it accessible and stimulating, and they will be surprised how interesting the law is, once it is reduced to its core issues.'

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'This book provides a splendid overview of the key questions of private law. It is written in a crystal-clear and straightforward language and addresses all core problems of the law of contract, tort and property and of family law and succession law. All issues are placed in a wider social context and often illustrated by references to solutions in English, American, French or German law. While the book was written for a general audience and lacks technical jargon and conceptual refinements it should nonetheless be read by law students as well because it demonstrates in a stimulating and persuasive manner how private law tries to find its way between ensuring the individual's freedom of choice, on the one hand, and the search for fairness, the defense of the weak and vulnerable and the protection of the public interest, on

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